River Pollution

†2107. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for implementation of a scheme, at National level, for saving the country's rivers from pollution;

(b) if so, the details of that scheme and when the decision to implement that scheme was taken; and

(c) the names of river which have been saved from getting polluted under this scheme, so far?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National River Conservation Plan which includes Ganga Action Plan Phase II was approved during the period April, 1993 to October, 1996, to take up pollution abatement works in 152 towns along the polluted stretches of 27 rivers spread over 16 States. The present approved cost of works under National River Conservation Plan that are under implementation is Rs. 3329 crore. The schemes of pollution abatement taken up under the National River Conservation Plan are (i) interception & diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the river through open drains and divert them for treatment, (ii) sewage treatment plants for treating the diverted sewage, (iii) low cost sanitation works to prevent open defecation on river banks, (iv) electric and improved wood based crematoria to conserve the use of wood and (v) river front development works such as improvement of bathing ghats etc.

(c) The following rivers are presently covered under National River Conservation Plan:

Adyar	Damodar	Mahanadi	Tungabhadra
Betwa	Ganga	Narmada	Tambrabarani
Bhadra	Godavari	Sabarmati	Vennar
Brahmini	Gomati	Satluj	Vaigai
Cauvery	Khan	Subarnarekha	Wainganga
Chambal	Krishna	Tapti	Yamuna
Cooum	Kshipra	Tunga	

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.